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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Connors, Christopher M.; Miller, Andrew F.; Walsky, Joshua P.; Singh, James; Leamon, Andrew; VanDyke, Jeffrey R.  
Assignee: Trilogy Development Group, Inc.  
Title: Method And Apparatus For Sorting Products By Features  
Serial No.: 09/770,694 Filing Date: January 26, 2001  
Examiner: Unknown Group Art Unit: 2171  
Docket No.: M-9723-1P US

San Jose, California  
May 9, 2001

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D. C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Dear Sir:

Prior to examining this patent application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Specification**

**Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 6-24 with the following paragraph:**

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation-in-part of Patent Application No. 09/760,059, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SORTING PRODUCTS BY FEATURES," filed 1/12/01 and having C. Connors, A. Miller, J. Walsky, J. Van Dyke, J. Singh and A. Leamon as inventors (which claims priority to Provisional Patent Application No. 60/176,117, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FACILITATING COMMERCIAL



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TRANSACTIONS OVER A DATA NETWORK," filed 1/14/00 and having J. Walsky and S. Aboel-Nil as inventors); and is related to Patent Application Nos. 09/760,062 (filed 1/12/01) and 09/770,137 (filed herewith), both entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCT COMPARISON," and both having C. Connors, A. Miller, J. Walsky, J. Van Dyke, J. Singh and A. Leamon as inventors, and Patent Application Nos. 09/760,061 (filed 1/12/01) and 09/770,522 (filed herewith), both entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FACILITATING COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS OVER A DATA NETWORK," and both having J. Walsky as inventor. These applications are assigned to Trilogy Development Group, Inc., the assignee of the present invention, and are hereby incorporated by reference, in their entirety and for all purposes.

**Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 10-11 with the following paragraph:**

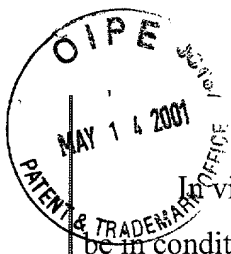
Fig. 5A and 5B, referred to herein generally as Fig. 5, illustrate a plan view of a web page employed to allow users to register in order to gain access to the present invention.

**Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 12-14 with the following paragraph:**

Fig. 6A and 6B, referred to herein generally as Fig. 6, illustrate a plan view of a web page that is uniquely associated with a user and on which product-related information stored on a server is accessed, in accordance with the present invention.

**Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 12-14 with the following paragraph:**


Fig. 22A and Fig. 22B, referred to herein generally as Fig. 22, illustrate an example of a database structure that can be used in the database of Fig. 21.



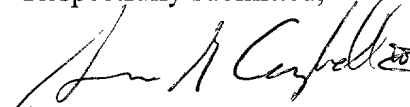
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 9, 2001.

 5/9/01  
Attorney for Applicant(s)      Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



Samuel G. Campbell III  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Reg. No. 42,381

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## APPENDIX B

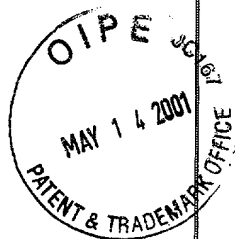
### "MARKED UP" PARAGRAPHS SHOWING THE CHANGES THAT THE ACCOMPANYING SUBMISSION MAKES TO THE SPECIFICATION

OF 09/770,694

The paragraph on page 1, lines 6-24 is changed as follows:

#### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of Patent Application No. 09/760,059 [(     Atty. Docket No. M-9723 US     )], entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SORTING PRODUCTS BY FEATURES," filed 1/12/01 and having C. Connors, A. Miller, J. Walsky, J. Van Dyke, J. Singh and A. Leamon as inventors (which claims priority to Provisional Patent Application No. 60/176,117, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FACILITATING COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS OVER A DATA NETWORK," filed 1/14/00 and having J. Walsky and S. Aboel-Nil as inventors); and is related to Patent Application Nos. 09/760,062 [(     Atty. Docket No. M-9722 US     )] (filed 1/12/01) and 09/770,137 [(     Atty. Docket No. M-9722-1P US     )] (filed herewith), both entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCT COMPARISON," and both having C. Connors, A. Miller, J. Walsky, J. Van Dyke, J. Singh and A. Leamon as inventors, and Patent Application Nos. 09/760,061 [(     Atty. Docket No. M-9724 US     )] (filed 1/12/01) and 09/770,522 [(     Atty. Docket No. M-9724-1P US     )] (filed herewith), both entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FACILITATING COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS OVER A DATA NETWORK," and both having J. Walsky as inventor. These applications are assigned to Trilogy Development Group, Inc., the assignee of the present invention, and are hereby incorporated by reference, in their entirety and for all purposes.



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Fig. 22A and Fig. 22B, referred to herein generally as Fig. 22, illustrate[s] an example of a database structure that can be used in the database of Fig. 21.